

VMF 155

9B
②1

Report # 134

HC(21)

SECRET

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

(OMIT THIS SHEET IF NO ATTACK WAS MADE)

REPORT No. 134

XI. ATTACK ON ENEMY SHIPS OR GROUND OBJECTIVES (By Own Aircraft Listed in II Only).

- (a) Target(s) and Location(s) Bivouac Area (A-1) Northern tip Taroa Island, Maloelap Atoll. (b) Time Over Target(s) 0930 H (Zone)
(FOR SHIPS INCLUDE ALL IN AREA UNDER ATTACK)
- (c) Clouds Over Target C.A.V.U. (BASE IN FEET, TYPE AND TENTHS OF COVER)
- (d) Visibility of Target Clear (CLEAR, HAZY, PARTIALLY OBSCURED BY CLOUDS, ETC.) (e) Visibility Unlimited (MILES)
- (f) Bombing Tactics: Type glide (LEVEL, GLIDE OR DIVE) Bomb Sight Used AN-MK-8 (TYPE)
Bombs Dropped per Run 4 Planes (NUMBER) Spacing 0 (FEET) Altitude of Bomb Release 150 Ft. (FEET)
- (g) Number of Enemy Aircraft Hit on Ground: Destroyed --- Probably Destroyed --- Damaged ---

(h) AIMING POINT	(i) DIMENSIONS OR TONNAGE	(j) NO. A/C ATTACKING (k) SQUADRON	(l) BOMBS AND AMMUNITION EXPENDED, EACH AIMING POINT	(m) NO. HITS On Aiming Point	(n) DAMAGE (None, slight, serious, destroyed or sunk)
1 Bivouac Area (A-1) Northern tip Taroa Island.	400' X 500'	4 F4U-1D VMF-155	4 Planes: 4-1400# Napalm Bombs.	0	Not observed
2					
3					
4					
5					
6					
7					
8					

(o) RESULTS: (For all hits claimed on ship targets and for land targets of special interest, draw diagram, top or side view or both, as appropriate, showing type and location of hits. For all targets give location and effect of hits, and identify by numbers above. Use additional sheets if necessary).

1. A1, Taroa Island: Of four Napalm bombs expended on this target two were within the target area, both were duds. The remaining two exploded approximately 300 feet west of the target area. Damage from the exploded bombs cannot be evaluated until photographs are studied.

See diagram attached.

SECRET

(p) Were Photographs Taken? Yes Photographs of Damage, When Taken, Should Be Attached By Staple:
Delivered to Commander, Majuro Air Group for Forwarding.

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
(Reclassify when filled out)

SECRET

REPORT No. 134

XII. TACTICAL AND OPERATIONAL DATA. (Narrative and comment. Describe action fully and comment freely, following applicable items in check list at left. Use additional sheets if necessary.)

ENGAGEMENT WITH ENEMY

OWN AIRCRAFT

- Disposition
- Altitudes
- Speeds
- Approach Tactics
- Use of Cover, Deception
- Angles of Attack and Their Effectiveness
- Distance of Opening Fire
- Defense Tactics and Their Effectiveness

ENEMY AIRCRAFT

- Method of Locating, Distance
- Disposition
- Altitudes
- Speeds
- Approach Tactics
- Use of Cover, Deception
- Angles of Attack
- Distance of Opening Fire
- Defense Tactics

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Own Weaknesses
- Enemy Weaknesses
- Offensive Tactics, Own
- " " , Enemy
- Defensive Tactics, Own
- " " , Enemy
- Flexible Gunnery, Own
- Escort Tactics
- Fighter Direction
- Use of Radar
- Night Fighting
- Recognition, Aircraft

ATTACK

OWN TACTICS

- Method of Locating Target
- Approach to Target
- Altitudes, Speeds
- Approach
- Dive
- Pull-Out
- Dive Angle
- Strafing
- Retirement
- Defensive Tactics
- Use of Jamming

DEFENSE, ENEMY

- Evasive Tactics, Ships
- Concealment
- Searchlights
- Night Fighter Tactics
- Use of Jamming

COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Bombing Tactics
- Torpedo Tactics
- Effectiveness of Bombs, Torpedoes
- Selection of Targets
- Fuzing
- Strafing Tactics
- Defensive Tactics
- Use of Radar
- Reconnaissance
- Photography
- Briefing

OPERATIONAL

- Navigation
- Homing
- Rendezvous
- Recognition, Ships
- Communications
- Flight Operations
- Search and Tracking
- Base Operations
- Maintenance

Four fighters of this command took off at 0830 H for a fire-bomb strike on the bivouac area located on the north-
ern tip of Taven Island, Makoolap Atoll. The planes joined
up immediately after take-off and set course to Makoolap
using power settings of 2000 RPM and 30 inches. After
gaining altitude of 5000 feet, the planes encountered poor
flying conditions and returned to an altitude of 1500 feet
to fly under a heavy over-cast.

Over Taven Island the ceiling was unlimited with the
target clearly visible. The planes began their glide at
3000 feet off the eastern side of the island and made their
run due west over the target area toward the lagoon. The
attack was delivered from column formation with equal inter-
val between planes. Releases were at approximately 150 feet,
with recoveries in a left turn over the lagoon. The planes
returned to the original starting point and, again in column
formation, made a strafing run over the target area.

Light, moderate and inaccurate AA fire was observed
from the area inbound from the elbow pier on the lagoon side
of the island.

The planes joined up after the attack in a running
rendezvous and returned directly to the base at an average
altitude of 1500 feet.

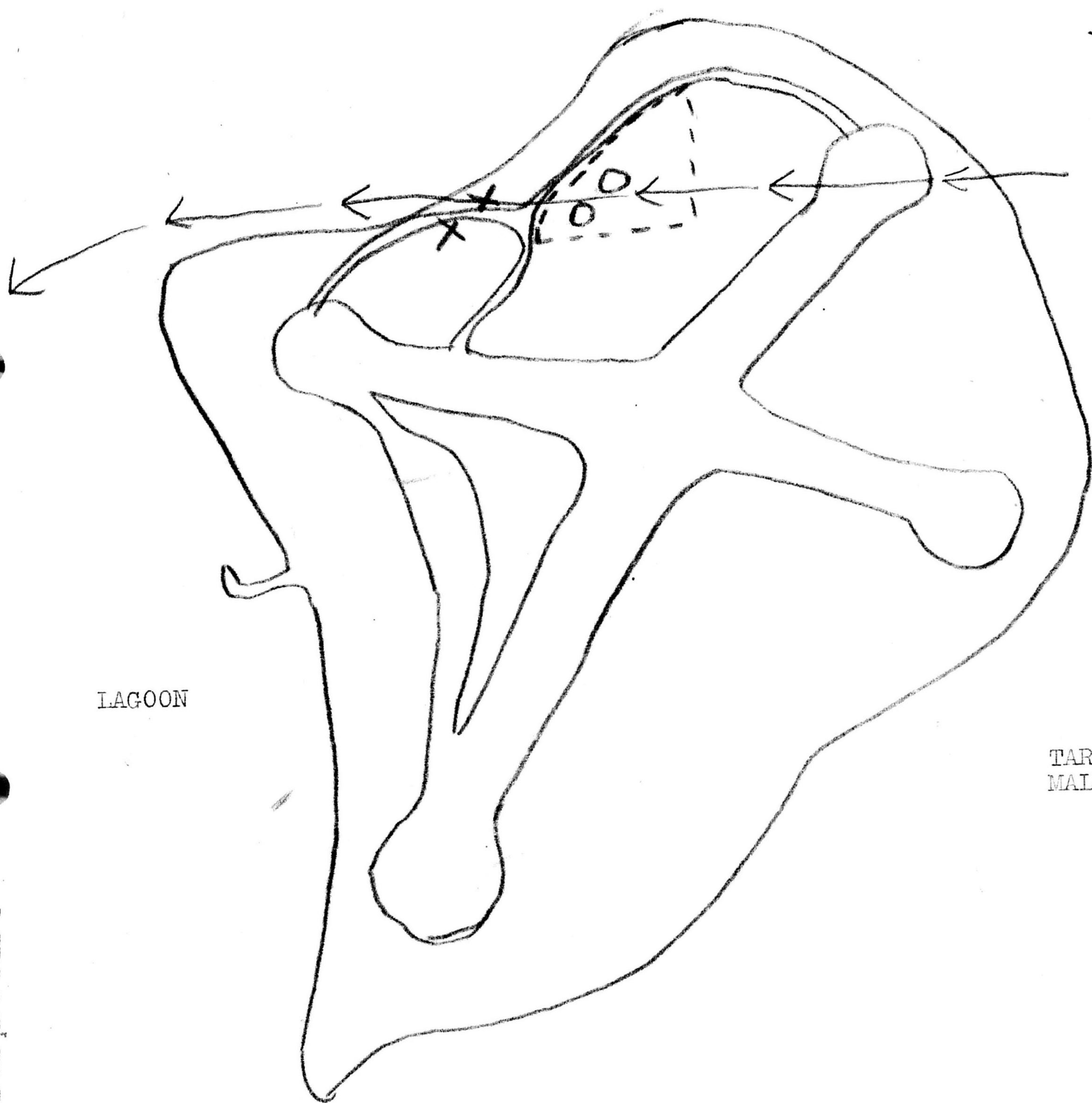
The Dumbo was observed on station and a BE was sighted
approximately five miles southeast of our Atoll on a course
of 300 degrees, making approximately 20 knots.

Pilots participating in the strike were:

GARCILL, W. H.	Major,	USMC
LYNN, J. P.	Capt.,	USMC
STODOL, P. R.	2LT.,	USMC
DEWILSON, C. R.	2LT.,	USMC

SECRET

SECRET



LAGOON

OCEAN

TAROA ISLAND
MALOELAP ATOLL

Direction of run
Target Area
Bomb hits
Duds

SECRET

AIRCRAFT ACTION REPORT

RESTRICTED
 (Reclassify when
 filled out)

REPORT No. 114

XIII. MATERIAL DATA. (Comment freely on performance or suitability, following check list at left.
 Use additional sheets if necessary).

- ARMAMENT**
 - Guns, Gunsights
 - Turrets
 - Ammunition
 - Bombs, Torpedoes
 - Bomb Sights
 - Bomb Releases
- COMMUNICATIONS**
 - Radio, Radar
 - Homing Devices
 - Visual Signals
 - Codes, Ciphers
- RECOGNITION**
 - IFF
 - Signals
 - Battle Lights
 - Procedures
- PROTECTION**
 - Armor, Points and Angles
of Fire Needing Further
Protection
 - Leak Proofing
- EMERGENCY EQUIPMENT**
 - Parachutes
 - Life Belts, Life Rafts
 - Safety Belts
 - Emergency Kits
 - Rations, First Aid
- NAVIGATIONAL EQUIPMENT**
 - Compasses
 - Driftsights
 - Octants
 - Automatic Pilots
 - Charts
 - Field Lighting
- INSTRUMENTS**
 - Flight
 - Power Plant
- OXYGEN SYSTEM**
- CAMOUFLAGE AND
DECEPTION DEVICES**
- STRUCTURE**
 - Airframe
 - Control Surfaces
 - Control System
 - Dive Flaps
 - Landing Gear
 - Heating System
 - Flight Characteristics
At Various Loadings
- POWER PLANT**
 - Engines
 - Engine Accessories
 - Propellers
 - Lubricating System
 - Starters
 - Exhaust Dampers
- HYDRAULIC SYSTEM**
- ELECTRICAL SYSTEM**
 - Auxiliary Plant
 - Lights
- FUEL SYSTEM**
- FLIGHT CLOTHING**
- MAINTENANCE**
- BASE FACILITIES**
 - Plane Servicing Equipment
 - Personnel Facilities

In the attack covered by this report, two material failures were noted.

On plane # 171 of VNF-155, the special incendiary bomb was dropped unarmed, the cause being a short in the electrical arming circuit. The electrical cable has been replaced.

On plane # 155 of VNF-155, the special incendiary bomb failed to ignite because of an experimental type of fusing which apparently was inadequate to insure 100% ignition. In order to correct this condition, special incendiary bombs on the next strike will be fused as follows:

Nose - One (1) E3M1 Igniter
 Tail - Two (2) E3M1 Igniters

These will be installed in a protected place on the inside of the bomb tail.

SECRET

REPORT PREPARED BY:

E. C. Williams
 SIGNATURE
 E. C. WILLIAMS

1st Lt. U.S. Air Force
 RANK AND DUTY

APPROVED BY:

W. R. Carrell
 SIGNATURE
 W. R. CARRELL

1st Lt. U.S. Air Force
 RANK AND DUTY

1st Lt. U.S. Air Force
 DATE